

REMARKS

Claims 14-20 and 31-48 were pending in the application. Claims 14 and 36 are amended herein without prejudice or disclaimer, in order to present the claims in better form for consideration on appeal. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute additional claims in a continuation application. Claims 14-20 and 31-48 are presently pending.

Support for the amendments to claims 14 and 36 may be found in original claim 18 and in the Specification at least at pg. 7, paragraph [0031]; pg. 10, paragraph [0038], first sentence; pg. 10, paragraph [0039]; pg. 17, paragraph [0064]; pg. 18, paragraph [0068]; pg. 25, paragraph [0092] and pg. 26, paragraph [0095].

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for her courtesy in granting a telephonic interview on November 7, 2003. During the interview, the Examiner indicated that the above amendments would be effective to overcome the rejections over the prior art. As no other rejections are maintained, Applicant submits that the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance and requests an early decision to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,



Richard A. Nakashima
Reg. No. 42,023

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BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
Seventh Floor
12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1030
(303) 740-1980